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Montréal Communiqué

Thursday, November 26, 1970

TOP MONTREAL YMCA STAFF POST: Effective December 1st, D. Ross Bannerman takes over as General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the YMCAs of Greater Montreal.

His predecessor, Rix G. Rogers, will serve as Assistant to the President in Montreal until April 1, 1971, when he becomes General Secretary of the National Council of Canadian YMCAs.

Operating with an annual budget of some \$3,000,000, Bannerman will share major responsibility for setting policy in Montreal.

He will also oversee city-wide activities which involve over 55,000 people and a staff which, including part-time help, totals over 800.

CLOSER TIES IN THE OFFING? Maybe it's nothing more than a flirtation, but the YMCA and YWCA are jointly discussing areas of greater co-operation in Montreal.

TOGETHERNESS AT VANIER COLLEGE: Members of the Vanier College faculty and administrative staff have joined with students in a YMCA-conceived fitness program.

Participants were first put through a series of YMCA tests which evaluated physical condition and provided an accurate basis for charting progress.

The tests used finely-calibrated equipment to check muscular strength, power and endurance, efficiency of the cardiovascular system (heart and blood vessels), flexibility and fat content at key points of the body.

Conditioning sessions are now being run twice a week, on campus, by members of the Y's phys ed staff. A series of re-tests will be scheduled in 17-18 weeks to assess the improvement of those involved.

ATTRACTING YOUNGSTERS: Saturday participation in youth programs of the Northwestern (N.D.G.) YMCA is currently about four times greater than last year. The branch has developed a Go-go schedule of activities and the kids are really becoming involved.

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LEGAL AID CLINIC: A free legal aid clinic is now being operated out of the International YMCA. Its principal resources are Miss Barbara Kataidotis, a Y community developer, and Evangelos Hadjis, a young lawyer.

The clinic was started mainly to serve the many Greek immigrants residing in the area served by International.

Mr. Hadjis, who was born in Greece, has first-hand knowledge of many of the problems facing newcomers to this country. Miss Kataidotis's father was a Greek immigrant.

A SPECIAL FOR SIMPSONS-SEARS: International YMCA's Continuing Education Department has developed a Learn-French program for a group of senior sales executives from Simpsons-Sears department store.

FITNESS COMPLEX AT WEST ISLAND Y: The West Island YMCA could have a comprehensive fitness complex in operation early in the next year.

A proposal now being considered calls for the installation of modern-equipped exercise rooms, a sauna, solarium, locker rooms and lounges on the second floor of the building.

Details of plans, to be revealed shortly, also involve a series of professionally supervised conditioning programs for men and women.

STREET WORKERS SET SIGHTS ON DELINQUENCY: The Federal Solicitor General's Department is underwriting a street-work pilot project to prevent juvenile delinquency.

The undertaking was started some $2\frac{1}{2}$ months ago by the YMCA's Metropolitan Outreach Unit in an inner city district with a mainly French-language population of almost 90,000.

Results of street workers' efforts are being scientifically evaluated, on an ongoing basis, by teams of researchers from a number of universities.